In the Claims

- 1. (Currently amended) A controlled release pharmaceutical composition of Nimesulide which comprises nimesulide as an active drug upto 99% w/w of the composition, one or more release controlling sustaining materials from 0.1% to 99% w/w of the composition and pharmaceutical excipients from 0% to 90% w/w of the composition.
- 2. (Original) A controlled release pharmaceutical composition of nimesulide as claimed in claim 1 which comprises nimesulide as an active drug from 20% to 70% w/w of the composition, one or more sustaining materials from 5% to 65% of the composition and pharmaceutical excipients from 10% to 70% w/w of the composition.
- (previously presented) A controlled release pharmaceutical composition of nimesulide as claimed in claim 1 wherein there is no loss of bioavailability in comparison to an immediate release composition.
- 4. (Currently amended) A controlled release pharmaceutical composition of nimesulide as claimed in claim 1 wherein the sustaining materials are selected from the group comprising consisting of cellulose and cellulose derivatives, waxes, carbomers, polyalkylene polyols, polycarbophils, methacryclic acid derivatives, gelatins, gums, and polyethylene oxides.
- (Currently amended) The composition as claimed in claim 1 which
 further comprises release modifiers selected from the group comprising
 consisting of wetting agents, solubilizers, surfactants, plasticizers, pore
 formers, pH modifiers and tonicity adjusting agents.
- 6. (Previously presented) A controlled release pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 1 which is a gastroretentive system wherein the residence time of the drug is increased in the stomach, duodenum, jejunum or ileum.

- 7. (Currently amended) The A composition as claimed in claim 6 wherein gastroretention of Nimesulide is achieved by mucoadhesion, floatation flotation, [and/or] reducing gastrointestinal motility or a combination thereof.
- 8. (Currently amended) The A-composition as claimed in claim 7 wherein mucoadhesion is achieved by treating Nimesulide with polymers having affinity for gastrointestinal mucosa comprising—said polymers selected from the group consisting of Ppolycarbophils, carbomers, alginates, Ccellulose and C cellulose derivatives, Cchitosan, Cgums and Lectins.
- 9. (Currently amended) The-A composition as claimed in claim 7 wherein flotation floatation is achieved by adding to the composition gasgenerating materials selected from the group consisting of selected from sodium bicarbonate, sodium carbonate, calcium carbonate and potassium carbonate alone or in combination with an acidic substances substance comprising selected from the group consisting of hydrochloric acid, citric acid, fumeric acid, malic acid, maleic acid, ascorbic acid and tartaric acid.
- 10. (Currently amended) A-composition as claimed in claim 7 wherein gastrointestinal motility is reduced by materials comprising selected from the group consisting of fats, fatty acids and transeterification products of fats and fatty acids with polyols.
- 11. (Currently amended)A process for the manufacture of a controlled release composition compositions of Nimesulide which comprises mixing together under conventional conditions of temperature and pressure nimesulide as an active drug up to 99% w/w of the composition, one or more release controlling materials from 0.1% to 99% w/w of the composition and pharmaceutical excipients from 0% to 90% w/w of the composition.
- 12. Canceled

- 13. Canceled
- 14. (previously presented) A controlled release pharmaceutical composition of nimesulide as claimed in claim 2 wherein there is no loss of bioavailability in comparison to an immediate release composition.
- 15. (Currently amended) A controlled release pharmaceutical composition of nimesulide as claimed in claim 2 wherein the sustaining materials are selected from the group comprising consisting of cellulose and cellulose derivatives, waxes, carbomers, polyalkylene, polyols, polycarbophils, methacrylic acid derivatives, gelatins, gums and polyethylene oxides.
- 16. (Currently amended) A controlled release pharmaceutical composition of nimesulide as claimed in claim 3 wherein the sustaining materials are selected from the group comprising consisting of cellulose and cellulose derivatives, waxes, carbomers, polyalkylene polyols, polycarbophils, methacrylic acid derivatives, gelatins, gums, and polyethylene oxides.
- 17. (previously presented) A controlled release pharmaceutical composition of numesulide as claimed in claim 14 wherein the sustaining materials are selected from the group comprising consisting of cellulose and cellulose derivative, waxes, carbomers, polyalkylene polyols, polycarbophils, methacrylic acid derivatives, gelatins, gums, and polyethylene oxides.